



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*O Lord, you see that all hearts are empty unless filled by you,
and all desires are frustrated unless they point to you.*

*So give us light and grace to seek and find you,
that we may be yours, and you may be ours, forever.*

—Christina Rossetti

MAY 19, 2024 • FELLOWSHIP HALL SERVICE

* Congregation standing as you are able.

Order of Worship

Welcome and greetings

John Wingard, ruling elder

* Call to worship

from Psalm 104

Leader: Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

All: **How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

Leader: May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works—he who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

All: **I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!**

* Hymn of praise

“Rejoice in All Your Works”

Every mouth that cries for food, every lung that yearns for breath,
every eye that searches through the dark for light,
all creation looks to you for its breath and for its food;
from the goodness of your hand we’re satisfied.

Refrain: O rejoice in all your works, King of heaven, King of earth!
Every creature you have made declares your praise.
We rejoice in all you’ve made, God of all sustaining grace;
with the mountain, sky, and sea, we sing your praise.

Every tree that thirsts for rain, every bird that seeks its nest,
every heart that waits in hope to be made glad,
all creation looks to you for its breath and for its food;
from the goodness of your hand we’re satisfied. *Refrain*

May the pond'rings of my heart and the song upon my lips
with the chorus of creation join in praise
to the God who made all things, to the Spirit who sustains,
to the Son who over all creation reigns. *Refrain*

text based on Psalm 104, music by Wendell Kimbrough ©2014 Wendell Kimbrough, ARP, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

* Prayer of adoration

Call to confession

based on 1 Peter 1 and 2

We have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. Therefore, let us rid ourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, let us crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it we may grow up in our salvation, now that we have tasted that the Lord is good.

Silent prayers of confession

Assurance of God's pardoning grace

from 1 John 4 and 1 Peter 2

Leader: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

All: **We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that we may declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.**

* Hymn of assurance

"Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name!
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:
he has washed us with his blood (3x), he has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies,
called us by his grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:
he has washed us with his blood (3x), he presents our souls to God.

Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;
when, through grace, in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more:
he who washed us with his blood (3x) has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;
here they trusted him before us, now their praises fill the sky:

“Thou hast washed us with thy blood (3x); thou art worthy, Lamb of God!”

text by John Newton, 1774; music by Laura Taylor © 2001 Laura Taylor Music CCLI Lic. #152036

Worship in the giving of God’s tithe and our offerings

Offertory hymn

“He Will Hold Me Fast”

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
when the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life’s fearful path;
for my love is often cold; he must hold me fast.

Refrain: He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast;
for my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Those he saves are his delight; Christ will hold me fast;
precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast.
He’ll not let my soul be lost; his promises shall last;
bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast. *Refrain*

For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;
justice has been satisfied; he will hold me fast.
Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast
till our faith is turned to sight, when he comes at last! *Refrain*

original text by Ada Habershon, 1906; alt. text and music by Matt Merker ©2013 Matthew Merker Music, ARP, UBP, CCLI Lic. #152036

Officer ordination and installation

*** Scripture reading from Deuteronomy 31:14-29**

Diane Reed

¹⁴And the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, the days approach when you must die. Call Joshua and present yourselves in the tent of meeting, that I may commission him.” And Moses and Joshua went and presented themselves in the tent of meeting. ¹⁵And the LORD appeared in the tent in a pillar of cloud. And the pillar of cloud stood over the entrance of the tent.

¹⁶And the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, you are about to lie down with your fathers. Then this people will rise and whore after the foreign gods among them in the land that they are entering, and they will forsake me and break my covenant that I have made with them. ¹⁷Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide my face from them, and they will be devoured. And many evils and troubles will come upon them, so that they will say in that day, ‘Have not these evils come upon us because our God is

not among us?’¹⁸ And I will surely hide my face in that day because of all the evil that they have done, because they have turned to other gods.¹⁹ Now therefore write this song and teach it to the people of Israel. Put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the people of Israel.²⁰ For when I have brought them into the land flowing with milk and honey, which I swore to give to their fathers, and they have eaten and are full and grown fat, they will turn to other gods and serve them, and despise me and break my covenant.²¹ And when many evils and troubles have come upon them, this song shall confront them as a witness (for it will live unforgotten in the mouths of their offspring). For I know what they are inclined to do even today, before I have brought them into the land that I swore to give.”²² So Moses wrote this song the same day and taught it to the people of Israel.

²³And the LORD commissioned Joshua the son of Nun and said, “Be strong and courageous, for you shall bring the people of Israel into the land that I swore to give them. I will be with you.”

²⁴When Moses had finished writing the words of this law in a book to the very end, ²⁵Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, ²⁶“Take this Book of the Law and put it by the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against you.²⁷ For I know how rebellious and stubborn you are. Behold, even today while I am yet alive with you, you have been rebellious against the LORD. How much more after my death! ²⁸Assemble to me all the elders of your tribes and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears and call heaven and earth to witness against them. ²⁹For I know that after my death you will surely act corruptly and turn aside from the way that I have commanded you. And in the days to come evil will befall you, because you will do what is evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking him to anger through the work of your hands.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of preparation for the study of God’s Word

Sermon

“Our Repetitive Hope”

Wil Nettleton, pastor of mission & worship

Like Israel preparing to go into the land, the church, as we go into the world, has:

1. a leader divinely commissioned to trust and follow. (vv. 14-15, 23)
2. a book of songs and law designed to warn and guide. (vv. 16-22, 24-29)

Pastoral prayer

*** Hymn of response**

“Be Thou My Vision”

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heav’n’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent; Traditional Irish melody

*** Benediction**

*** Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

*** Postlude**

Musicians for this week:

Joel Christie – vocals

Grady Dickinson – alto sax

Greta Erickson – vocals

Calvin Garriott – piano

Hannah Lutz – viola

Maria Rhodes – vocals

Chapman Whitted – guitar

OFFICER INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION

The LMPC officer class of 2027 will be installed during the worship services today. Any officer serving for the first time as either an elder or a deacon will also be ordained. The make-up date is May 26.

ELDERS

Trey Carr
Lea Courtney
Kelly Kapic
Steve Kaufmann
Keith Michaels
Avery Mixon
Marshall Rowe
Nathan Thompson
Joseph Wingfield
Rob Witcher

DEACONS

Eric Chandler
William Darby
Cross Doster
Mark Ellis
John Holland
Ryan Lusk
Cal Marshall
Jeff Nix
Matthew Smisson
Mayes Starke
Newton Wiggins

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR OUR SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING TODAY, we will celebrate communion in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. and continue our series on the fruit of the Spirit. Nursery will be provided.

PASTOR CHAD MIDDLEBROOKS is taking a much-deserved sabbatical from May 26 until September 1. Please pray for his rest. If you see him in the community, feel free to greet him. However, please protect him from the work and business of the church for this season. If you need assistance, contact Chad's assistant, Paula Plating (paula@lmpc.org or 423-424-4094), who will direct you to someone to help with your specific need.

SAVE THESE DATES for women's summer events:

- Summer Suppers: June 11 & July 25 at 6:00 p.m. in various homes
- Popsicles on the Playground at The Commons: June 12, 19, & 26 at 10:00 a.m.
- Summer Book Clubs: July 9 at 6:30 p.m. at various restaurants

CALLING ALL SUPERHERO VOLUNTEERS! We need your help to make VBS happen on June 25, 26, and 27 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Please sign up on Realm Connect and let us know your preference: storytelling, worship, registration, hospitality, crafts, games, etc. Training provided. We'll learn about how heroes of the faith point us to our ultimate superhero, Jesus!

To find out more about happenings at LMPC, visit lmpc.org/events.

JOIN THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our online church directory allows our members to easily find contact information for one another. And it is private, which means it is only accessible through a Realm Connect account. If you do not have an account, or if you have hidden your information, others in the church cannot find you. Find more details on joining and using Realm Connect at lmpc.org/realm.